

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Jackson Ward

AND/OR COMMON

Jackson Ward Historic District (Preferred)

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

(See Continuation Sheet #29) Roughly bounded by 4th, Marshall,
Smith Streets, & the Richmond-Petersburg Turnpike

__ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Richmond

__ VICINITY OF

3rd (David E. Satterfield, III)

STATE

Virginia

CODE

51

COUNTY

(in city)

CODE

760

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☒ DISTRICT☐ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☐ PRIVATE☒ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ MUSEUM☒ COMMERCIAL☐ PARK☒ EDUCATIONAL☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ ENTERTAINMENT☒ RELIGIOUS☐ GOVERNMENT☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ MILITARY☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Multiple Ownership (See computer print-out of Assessments in the
files)

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

__ VICINITY OF

STATE

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Richmond City Hall

STREET & NUMBER

900 East Broad Street

CITY, TOWN

Richmond

STATE

Virginia 23219

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS (3) (See Continuation Sheet #1)

TITLE

(1) Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE

1936

☒ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Library of Congress

CITY, TOWN

Washington

STATE

D.C.

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT

☒ GOOD

☒ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED

☐ RUINS

☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED

☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE

☐ MOVED

DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Jackson Ward is a visually cohesive residential neighborhood of nineteenth-century townhouses located in the center of Richmond. Covering some thirty-eight city blocks, the neighborhood has well-defined boundaries. On its northern edge is the Richmond-Petersburg Turnpike; its eastern limits are set by a redevelopment area centered around the Richmond Coliseum; the southern edge is defined by the wholly commercial area paralleling Broad Street; and to the west, the neighborhood dissolves into twentieth-century housing of little architectural or historical interest. The streets are laid on a grid plan with the exception of Brook Road which cuts through the district on a diagonal following an old turnpike trace antedating the other streets. The principal streets run east-west and are (from north to south) Duval, Jackson, Leigh, Clay, and Marshall. The north-south cross streets are (from east to west) 4th through 1st Streets, St. James, Adams, Monroe, Henry, and Smith Streets. The western edge of the neighborhood is interrupted by a major four-lane artery, Belvidere Street (U.S. Route 1-301), which, however, has always been a principal thoroughfare. Belvidere Street has been heavily planted with trees and shrubbery in recent years, lessening its impact as a visual intrusion. Trees are thinly scattered on the rest of Jackson Ward's streets with the exception of Clay Street which for most of its course is shaded by a canopy of elms, making it one of the more handsome historic thoroughfares in the city. Clay Street, like nearly all other streets in the area, is lined with brick sidewalks laid in herringbone pattern and bordered by granite curbs.

The architecture of Jackson Ward includes practically the entire range of medium-size townhouse types erected in Richmond from the early nineteenth century to the early twentieth century. Most of the dwellings are row houses with party walls, although free-standing structures are not uncommon. Nearly all are built on small, narrow lots and have front yards ten feet deep or less. Many of the yards are enclosed by ornamental iron fences. A number of houses originally had free-standing kitchens and other outbuildings in the rear, but these have either disappeared or have been incorporated into later wings. The majority of the houses are built of brick; only a few are frame. Ninety percent of the nearly six hundred houses in Jackson Ward were erected in the nineteenth century, and some one hundred of them date prior to the War between the States. One of the earliest is a 1793 gambrel-roof frame cottage, one of only two remaining examples of a once prevalent Richmond type. At least four additional houses date prior to 1820. An especially handsome Federal house is the free-standing Addolph Dill House erected in 1832 at 00 Clay Street, one of few houses erected in the city during that decade. The Greek Revival style is well represented by numerous three-bay townhouses with small Doric porches. The large quantity of Italianate style post-Civil War dwellings are noted for their very handsome ironwork porches. Clay Street contains a fine collection of ornamental cast iron. The houses of the 1880s and '90s are characterized by their elaborate Eastlake style wooden porches.

The majority of Jackson Ward's dwellings, early and late, were built as middle-class housing; many now are occupied by poorer families and have subdivided for multi-family occupancy. There is, however, an unusually high percentage (for an inner city neighborhood) of resident ownership which contributes to many of the

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)		
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Jackson Ward is a fine nineteenth-century residential neighborhood and internally one of the least altered in Richmond. The area is broadly significant to students of black, urban, and business history and is unique for having been the center of Negro community life in Richmond during a watershed era for that race and the nation.

During the decades around the turn of the century, when Richmond had powerful credentials for being considered a foremost black business community in the nation, Jackson Ward was the hub of black professional and entrepreneurial activities in the city and the state. The fraternal organizations, cooperative banks, insurance companies, and other commercial and social institutions that figure most prominently in that saga bore fruit here. The individuals of exceptional vision and talent who nurtured them--the Maggie Walkers, John Mitchells, W. W. Brownes, and Giles B. Jacksons--lived and worked in Jackson Ward.

While Jackson Ward existed as a political subdivision only between the years 1871 and 1905, the "Jackson" was associated with the area from the 1820s and persists in popular usage to the present. Residents of the area could gather at James Jackson's (beer) Garden, located at Second and Leigh Streets, during the 1820s, and the area north of Broad (then "H") Street was known as "Jackson's Addition" at least as early as 1835 when it was so designated on the Bates Map of Richmond. Giles B. Jackson, the first Negro admitted to the practice of law before the Supreme Court of Virginia and a leading entrepreneur and attorney at the turn of the century, provides yet another instance of the association of the name with the neighborhood.

When in 1871 that part of Richmond bounded on the north and west by the then city corporation limits, on the south by Clay Street, and on the east by Eighteenth Street was established as a separate political subdivision, it was styled Jackson Ward. This was appropriate both for the earlier associations of the name with the area and for the fact that several other wards bore the names of Presidents. For the remainder of the century, Richmond had wards named after Jefferson, Monroe, Madison, and Jackson, in addition to Marshall and Clay.

The historic district is visually dominated by Greek Revival and Italianate town-houses constructed during the late ante-bellum period and post-bellum houses, many of the latter having elaborate ironwork or carved wooden trim. Indeed, the area contains the largest concentration of decorative cast-iron to be found in the state. These structures are complemented by shady streets and several late nineteenth-

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES (See Continuation Sheet #28)

Burrell, W. P. and D. E. Johnson, Sr. Twenty-Five Years: History of the Grand Fountain of the United Order of the True Reformers, 1881-1905. Richmond, Va., 1909.
Charter and Ordinances of the City of Richmond, James E. Goode, City Printer, Richmond, Va., 1875.
Directories, City of Richmond, 1819, 1845-46, 1852, 1860, 1868, 1870-1905.
Dulaney, Paul S. The Architecture of Historic Richmond. Charlottesville, Va. 1968.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

(See

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 110 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A	1 8	2 8 5 1 3 0	4 1 5 8 7 0 0
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	1 8	2 8 3 7 5 0	4 1 5 7 9 2 0

B	1 8	2 8 5 1 0 0	4 1 5 7 8 9 0
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
D	1 8	2 8 3 7 6 0	4 1 5 8 7 5 0

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

(See continuation sheet #29)

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
-------	------	--------	------

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
-------	------	--------	------

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Staff/revised by Historic Sites Survey Div.

ORGANIZATION

Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

DATE

March 1976

STREET & NUMBER

221 Governor Street

TELEPHONE

804-786-3144

CITY OR TOWN

Richmond

STATE

Virginia

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL XSTATE XLOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

- (2) Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory
1956 Federal
Library of Congress
Washington, D. C.
- (3) Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Survey
1967, 1975 State
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission
221 Governor Street
Richmond, Virginia
- (4) National Register of Historic Places
July 30, 1976 Federal

Washington, D. C.

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houses being maintained in better condition than otherwise would be expected for such an area. The more dilapidated houses are situated on the northern edge of the district, near the Turnpike. The houses in the best condition line Clay and Leigh Streets. Despite many pressures, the neighborhood remains remarkably stable. The north side of St. James Street's 600 block is all resident owned with no changes in title having taken place since 1956.

7. DESCRIPTION

A contributing factor to the visual cohesiveness of Jackson Ward is the maintenance of consistent scale. Few of the houses are over three stories in height; most are two stories. Many of the blocks are accented architecturally by nineteenth-century churches and other institutional buildings. The major visual intrusions are several bland low-rent apartments and warehouses along Duval Street and a modern firehouse located at the intersection of Leigh Street and Brook Road. A few service stations and small commercial structures are scattered about, but none is over two stories in height. Several block facades have voids caused by buildings lost to fire and parking lots, but the general impression is one of architectural consistency. A few larger commercial buildings are located in the eastern end of the district, but they are unobtrusive. The only fully commercial street, Second Street, has been so for many years, along with part of Third Street. The south side of the 200 and 300 blocks of West Leigh Street was demolished several years ago to create a park, however, in the process, a pleasant vista of the Ebenezer Baptist Church and the Battalion Armory was opened up.

Until the past year, little effort had been spent on the preservation or restoration of Jackson Ward structures. Since then, however, the Maggie L. Walker Historical Association has sought to gain, among other things, recognition for the neighborhood. The City of Richmond is currently undertaking an analysis of the district with the goal of maintaining it as a residential area. The Community Development division of the Office of City Planning, while recognizing the impetus of downtown commercial development, has been instrumental in setting up public meetings for Jackson Ward residents for the purpose of discussing plans for the future of the area. It is hoped that the area may someday receive historic district zoning, but as yet, the area's historic structures have no specific protection. The city has designated the approximate area as a conservation area.

CCL MTP

Jackson Ward Architectural Inventory

The following is a partial inventory of the more than six hundred structures in Jackson Ward. This inventory lists examples of buildings having major architectural and/or historical significance as well as examples typical of those in an

(See continuation sheet #3)

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entire block. All of the various architectural types and styles found in the area are included in this list. Furthermore, at least one representative of virtually every block in the district has been inventoried.

West Marshall Street

200 Block

200-208 (north side), Steamer Company No. 5

Firehouse: stuccoed brick, two stories, two three-sided bays flanking entrance. Pilastered bays, ornamental hoods above windows, bracketed cornice, iron balcony above entrance, bell tower removed. Italianate; built 1863. Built on a triangular lot. The site of a fire station since 1850, Steamer Company No. 5 is the oldest remaining firehouse in Richmond.

300 Block

All of the houses on the north side of the block save three are antebellum, Greek Revival structures built between 1848-1855.

300-304 (north side)

Two-Unit Townhouse Row: brick, two stories, three bays each unit. Greek Revival; 1848. Built for F. T. Isbell.

306-308 (north side)

Two-Unit Townhouse Row: pressed brick, two stories with raised basement, three bays each unit. Side hall plan, 6/6 sash, stone lintels, rectangular porch, square porch columns. Greek Revival; mid-nineteenth century.

312 (north side)

Townhouse: pressed brick, 1 1/2 stories with raised basement, three bays. Mansard roof, dormer windows, cast-iron porch. Late nineteenth century. Possible alteration of earlier house.

313 (south side), Barham House

Townhouse: stuccoed brick, 2 1/2 stories, three bays. Greek Revival door with side lights and transom, later Greek Revival porch with fluted Greek Doric columns, late nineteenth-century bracketed cornice, 2/2 sash. Built 1817 by William Young. One of earliest houses remaining in Ward.

316 (north side)

Townhouse: pressed brick, 2 1/2 stories with raised basement, three bays. Mansard roof and dormer windows added late nineteenth century, sash altered, first-floor windows shortened, porch columns altered, basement walls stuccoed. Greek Revival; mid-nineteenth century.

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West Marshall Street (Cont'd.)

400 Block

Included on this block is a collection of houses of both brick and wood construction exhibiting representative styles from the mid- to late nineteenth century.

401 (south side)

Townhouse: frame, two stories with raised basement, three bays. Modillion cornice (also used on porch--box columns with recessed panels, rectangular balusters), two-story service porch on rear wing, 6/6 sash, gable roof. Greek Revival; mid-nineteenth century.

410 (north side)

Townhouse: frame, two stories with raised basement, three bays. Coupled porch columns, iron lacework railing, first-floor windows altered, mansard roof added. Greek Revival; mid-nineteenth century.

500 Block

This block is composed of brick townhouses in both Greek Revival and Italianate styles, dating from the mid- to late nineteenth century.

503 (south side)

Townhouse: pressed brick, two stories with raised basement, three bays. Rectangular Greek Revival porch with square columns, 6/6 sash, stone lintels and sills, gable roof. Greek Revival; mid-nineteenth century.

East Clay Street

300 Block

321 (south side)

Townhouse: pressed brick, two stories, three bays. Georgian Revival; early twentieth century.

319 (south side)

Townhouse: stuccoed brick, 2 1/2 stories, three bays. Mansard roof, segmental-arch windows, 4/4 sash, iron cresting, cast-iron porch with grape-leaf-cluster design, one-bay service wing to west probably original. Second Empire; 1870-1880.

317 (south side)

Two-Unit Townhouse: identical to 409-417 West Clay Street, Georgian Revival porch. Late Victorian Italianate; late nineteenth century.

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East Clay Street (Cont'd.)

315 (south side)

Two-Unit Townhouse: identical to 409-417 West Clay Street. Late Victorian Italianate; late nineteenth century.

200 Block

East end of north side of block demolished.

214-212 (north side), Southern Aid Life Insurance Company Building.

Commercial Building: brick, four stories. Stone pilasters with stylized Corinthian capitals, stone entablature with pediments above entrances, symmetrical facade, modillion cornice. Georgian Revival; 1931. The largest commercial structure in Jackson Ward and home of the Southern Aid Life Insurance Company, Inc.

211 (south side)

Townhouse: pressed brick, two stories, three bays. Pilastered front bays, segmental-arch windows--stone spring blocks and keystones, iron porch with coupled columns, metal box cornice. Italianate; late nineteenth century.

209-201 (south side)

Five-Unit Townhouse Row: pressed brick, two stories, two bays each unit. No. 205 has two-story rectangular bay terminating in brick pediment; Nos. 203 and 207 flanking have three-sided bays; Nos. 201 and 209 terminate row with round towers; Nos. 207 and 209 retain original door hoods supported on scrolled brackets; No. 205 retains original Eastlake porch; Nos. 203 and 201--brick covered with imitation stone. Queen Anne; late nineteenth century.

204 (north side)

Townhouse: pressed brick, two stories with raised basement, three bays. Roman Doric porch--fluted columns, box cornice, hipped roof, 6/6 sash. Greek Revival; mid-nineteenth century.

202-200 (north side)

Two-Unit Townhouse Row: stuccoed brick, two stories, three bays each unit. Bracketed cornice, cast-iron porch with grape-leaf-cluster design. Italianate; mid-nineteenth century.

100 Block

113-111 (south side)

Two-Unit Townhouse Row: brick, two stories with raised basement, three bays each unit. Stepped gables, center chimney, Georgian Revival porches. Greek Revival; mid-nineteenth century.

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East Clay Street (Cont'd.)

00 Block

21 (south side)
Store: pressed brick, two stories, three bays. Originally a townhouse residence. Italianate; late nineteenth century. Retains excellent set of double exterior Queen Anne style doors with incised geometric patterns in recessed panels.

9 (south side), Mosby Memorial Baptist Church
Stuccoed brick, one-story on raised basement, three bays. Tetrastyle pedimented portico with square columns; center bay of portico is entrance foyer with entrances on both sides, steps altered. Greek Revival; circa 1865. Originally Society of Friends Meeting House, sold 1911 to Clay Street Baptist Church, now Mosby Memorial Baptist Church.

Along that portion of Clay Street extending west from the 00 block, and through to the 500 block, there remains, almost completely intact, a mid- to late nineteenth-century residential street. The residences are two to three stories, primarily brick, many with cast-iron or sawn-work porches typical of the period. Iron and wood late nineteenth-century fences outline small front yards. The wide, boulevard-type street lined with elms creates a setting and foreground for these residential blocks.

00 (south side), Dill House
Free-standing house: pressed brick, two stories with raised basement, three bays. Brick is laid in Flemish bond with narrow mortar joints; Roman Ionic porch with coupled, unfluted columns and balustrade; 6/6 sash; square corner blocks; hipped roof. Greek Revival; built 1832 for Addolph Dill. Dill was a prosperous merchant; he constructed one of the few large houses in the city between the years 1819 and 1834.

West Clay Street

00 Block

8-14 (north side)
Four Detached Townhouses: pressed brick, two stories with raised basement, three bays each unit. Each house nearly identical; Nos. 10-14 have typical Greek Revival porches, both square box columns and fluted columns are employed. Stepped gables; No. 8 ground floor and first floor altered for restaurant. Greek Revival; No. 14 built 1843; Nos. 8-12 built 1847.

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West Clay Street (Cont'd.)

15 & 21 (south side), Dill Houses

Townhouses: pressed brick, 2 1/2 stories with raised basement, three bays. Identical brick houses constructed by Dill; porches with Roman Doric columns; No. 15 has sheaf-of-wheat railings, original sash replaced in No. 15; stepped gables; dormer windows; original lawn between houses has been filled in with late nineteenth-century dwellings. Greek Revival; 1847; builder Addolph Dill. No. 15 was built for Dill's mother; Rev. F. M. Whittle, Bishop of Episcopal Diocese of Virginia in mid-nineteenth century, lived at No. 21.

16 (north side), Hood Temple A.M.E. Zion Church

Brick, two stories. Original building had full raised basement with sanctuary above. Side wall unaltered--five bays, brick pilasters, round-headed sanctuary windows, corbelled brick cornice, late Gothic Revival facade and bell tower added (steeple removed). Originally Italianate; 1859; architect, Albert West. Originally the Clay Street Methodist Church.

100 Block (The north side of this block contains 100-block numbered lots; the south side contains both 100-block and 200-block numbered lots.) With one exception, No. 105 recently destroyed by fire, the south side of the 100 block is a typical mid- to late nineteenth-century residential block.

107-111 (south side)

Three-Unit Townhouse Row: pressed brick, three stories, three bays each unit. Stone segmental arches over windows of Nos. 109 and 111, cast-iron front porches, central projecting pavilion. Italianate; late nineteenth century.

123 (south side)

Townhouse: pressed brick, three stories with raised basement, three bays. Typical of many ante-bellum Richmond townhouses remodeled and enlarged in the 1880s; bracketed cornice; cast-iron porch and window hoods, cornice, and third story were added during remodeling. Greek Revival-altered; mid-nineteenth century.

136-138 (north side), Taylor House

Two-Unit Townhouse Row: brick, two stories, two bays each unit. Built as single residence, enlarged 1820-1847, Flemish bond, double hung windows with sidelights--first floor, double round-headed windows--second floor, bracketed cornice. Federal with later alterations; 1820 & 1820-1847; builder, Isaac Goddin. Residence from 1836-1856 of James M. Taylor, leader of Richmond Methodism.

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West Clay Street (Cont'd.)

207-211 (south side)

Three-Unit Townhouse Row: brick, two stories with raised basements, No. 207--two bays, Nos. 209 and 211--three bays. 6/6 sash, bracketed cornice; all three houses have been altered. Greek Revival; 1837-1839; built by James M. Taylor.

213 (south side)

Townhouse: brick, two stories with raised basement, three bays. Entrance altered. Greek Revival; 1839-1840.

300 Block

305-311 (south side)

Three detached Townhouses: brick, two stories with raised basement, three bays each unit. Detached houses were probably identical when constructed although now are altered. Greek Revival; 1845.

313 (south side)

Townhouse: pressed brick 2 1/2 stories, three bays. Segmental stone arches above windows, dormer windows. Second Empire; late nineteenth century.

400 Block

An excellent mid- to late nineteenth-century residential block with typical Richmond ironwork porches in grape-leaf-cluster and rope patterns. Houses are primarily two stories, late nineteenth century; many wood and iron fences remain.

405 (south side)

Townhouse: pressed brick, two stories, three bays. Typical late nineteenth-century Richmond townhouse, cast-iron porch with grape-leaf-cluster design, stone segmental arches above windows, bracketed cornice, iron cresting, iron fence with wreath design. Italianate; late nineteenth century.

409-417 (south side)

Five-Unit Townhouse Row: pressed brick, two stories, two bays each unit. Each house facade formed by three-sided bay tower and entrance bay, ornamental segmental-arch stone lintels with keystones above windows, wood canopies above entrances supported by large scrolled brackets, bracketed cornices; No. 417 altered by addition of two-story Georgian Revival porch. Late Victorian Italianate; late nineteenth century.

500 Block

The south side of this mid- to late nineteenth-century residential block contains seven slightly altered Greek Revival townhouses.

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West Clay Street (Cont'd.)

503 (south side)

Townhouse: pressed brick, two stories with raised basement, three bays. Greek Revival porch with sheaf-of-wheat railing, original 6/6 sash, box cornice. Greek Revival; 1857; built for Robert Priddy.

505-507 (south side)

Two-Unit Townhouse Row: pressed brick, two stories, three bays each unit. Simple porches with narrow box columns, later bracketed cornice. Greek Revival; 1857; built for John Beridge.

509 (south side), Brick Layers Union Headquarters

Townhouse: pressed brick, two stories with raised basement, three bays. Typical porch with square box columns, first-floor window changed to door, box cornice. Greek Revival; 1858.

515 (south side)

Townhouse: pressed brick, two stories, three bays. Box cornice with dentil blocks, Georgian Revival porch added. Greek Revival; mid-nineteenth century.

517 (south side)

Townhouse: pressed brick, two stories with raised basement, three bays. Stepped gable, typical porch with box columns. Greek Revival; mid-nineteenth century; built for John J. Davis.

Catherine Street

500 Block

517 (south side) Everett House

Townhouse: frame, two stories, three bays. Two-story porch, brick end chimney flush with wall. 1854; built by Peter Everett.

523 (south side)

Townhouse: stucco, two stories, three bays. Brick end chimney flush with wall, one-story shed-roof structure to rear with flush brick end chimney, 6/9 sash first floor, shallow gable roof; mid-nineteenth century.

East Leigh Street

300 Block

The majority of the north side of this block has been demolished.

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East Leigh Street (Cont'd.)

308 (north side), Ellett House

Townhouse: pressed brick, two stories with raised basement, three bays. Relatively unaltered townhouse, porch with box columns and with sheaf-of-wheat railing, entrance with narrow sidelights and transom, 6/6 sash, wood lintels, box cornice, retains rear service wing with two-story gallery with square columns and box railing, gable roof. Greek Revival; 1853; built for Charles C. Ellett.

200 Block

215-211 (south side)

Three-Unit Townhouse Row: two stories, Nos. 211 and 213 have two bays each, No. 215 has three bays, sash altered--Nos. 211 & 213--square corner blocks in lintels, box cornice, Georgian Revival porches added to Nos. 211 & 213. Greek Revival; 1842.

100 Block

This is an excellent example of a substantial, well-maintained late nineteenth-century residential block. All of the houses are two stories, and most are unaltered.

110A (north side), Maggie L. Walker House

Listed on the Virginia Landmarks Register (April 15, 1975), the National Register of Historic Places (May 12, 1975), and as a National Historic Landmark. See National Register of Historic Places nomination form, April 1975.

100 (north side)

Townhouse: pressed brick, two stories with raised basement, round tower, arched entrance bay. Brick porch chamber with dressed stone arch on first floor, balcony with small recessed porch with two round-headed-arch openings on second floor, continuous dressed stone trim on tower forms lintels and sills of windows. Romanesque Revival; late nineteenth century. Important visually as corner element.

00 Block

22 (north side), Sharon Baptist Church

Brick, one story with full raised basement, three-part facade. Pointed arch windows, bell tower. Twentieth century Gothic; 1904. Congregation established 1887; the bell tower is an important visual element for the corner.

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East Leigh Street (Cont'd.)

21 (south side), Old Armstrong High School; Richmond Trade Training Center School: brick, 2 1/2 stories. Brick pilasters at corners, brick belt course, mansard roof, segmental-arch windows first floor, round-headed windows second floor and dormers, four-story corner tower. Second Empire, 1871. Built as Richmond Normal School.

West Leigh Street

00 Block

1 (south side), All Saints Pentecostal Church
Brick, one story, three-bay front. Steep gable roof with wide dormers, round-headed, stained-glass windows, rose window over entrance. Romanesque Revival; 1870. Built originally as Saint Philip's Protestant Episcopal Church, important as an example of a small-scale neighborhood church.

3 (south side)
Store: brick, two stories. Early storefront is intact although first-floor entrance doors removed, modillion cornice with dentil molding. Mid-nineteenth-century commercial.

16 (south side)
Townhouse: pressed brick, two stories. Three-sided bay tower, Georgian Revival porch. Early twentieth century. Residence of A. W. Holmes, Grand Secretary of True Reformers, early twentieth-century founder of National Ideal Benefit Society.

100 Block

There are a number of ante-bellum brick houses on the north side of this block, but most have been significantly altered.

102 (north side)
Townhouse: pressed brick, two stories. Three-sided bay, scrolled-wood entrance hood covered by Georgian Revival porch. Queen Anne; late nineteenth century. Residence of P. B. Ramsey, one of two black dentists in city in 1905.

110 (north side)
Townhouse: pressed brick, two stories, three bays. Turned-work (Eastlake) porch with spindle frieze, segmental brick arches above windows, bracketed cornice. Late Victorian Italianate; late nineteenth-century residence of Miles Debbress, a black civic leader of the late nineteenth century.

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West Leigh Street (Cont'd.)

112 (north side)

Townhouse: brick, two stories with full raised basement, three bays. Ornate metal window hoods, doors and windows altered. Mid-nineteenth century. 1905 real estate office of John Braxton.

122 (north side), First Battalion, Virginia Volunteers Infantry Armory

Armory: pressed brick, two stories. Projecting one-bay central tower with arched opening, flanked by two-bay, two-story wings that terminate in small corner towers; stone watertable, belt course, and lintels; ornate terra cotta frieze, brick battlements. Castellated; 1899.

200 Block

216 (north side), Ebenezer Baptist Church

Stuccoed brick, two stories, three bays. Tetrastyle portico with Ionic capitals added during renovation, square bell tower behind portico, spire removed. Italianate with Georgian Revival alterations; 1870s. First and largest black church in Jackson Ward.

300 Block

300 (north side)

Townhouse: pressed brick, two stories, three bays. Altered. Late Victorian Italianate; late nineteenth century. Residence of H. L. Harris, Grand Secretary of Masons in late nineteenth century. Also one of the residences of John H. Adams, Jr., Common Council member in 1871.

312 (north side)

Townhouse: frame, two stories, three bays. Late Victorian Italianate; late nineteenth century. Residence of Henry J. Moore, contractor and Common Council member in the period 1880-1890.

East Jackson Street

The houses on Jackson Street are primarily of a smaller scale (mostly two stories) than those previously described.

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East Jackson Street (Cont'd.)

00 Block

Northwest Corner of Jackson and First Street (north side)
Three-Unit Townhouse Row: pressed brick, two stories, two bays each unit. Entrance with narrow sidelights and transom, small Greek Revival porches, dressed stone sills and lintels, 6/6 sash, passage constructed between two westernmost houses, stepped gables, one-story masonry shed-roof service wing at rear of each house--probably original. Greek Revival; 1850.

West Jackson Street

00 Block

16 (north side)

Townhouse: brick, two stories, three bays. Later porch added to front, two-story frame service wing with exterior end chimney. Greek Revival; mid-nineteenth century.

18-22 (north side)

Townhouse: constructed originally as three identical brick, two story, two-bay houses, No. 20--stepped gables; No. 22--stepped gables, 6/6 sash; No. 18 raised to three floors late nineteenth century. Greek Revival; 1848. Example of identical row, with one house enlarged and altered in later style. No. 20 was the residence of Ellsworth Storrs, founder of Red Circle grocery chain.

19 & 21 (south side)

Townhouses: frame, two stories, three bays each house. No. 19--brick exterior end chimney; small-scale frame dwellings; mid-nineteenth century.

34-36 (north side)

Two-Unit Townhouse Row: frame, two stories. Early twentieth century. Residence of John Shepherd, leading black politician at the turn of the century.

100 Block

101 (south side)

Townhouse: brick, two stories with raised basement, three bays. Flemish-bond walls; two-course watertable; 9/9 sash first floor, Federal architrave; eight-panel door, raised panels with applied moldings; late nineteenth-century porch; second floor added or rebuilt. Federal with later additions; 1800-1825.

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West Jackson Street (Cont'd.)

105 (south side)

Townhouse: brick, two stories, three bays. Flemish-bond walls, late nineteenth-century porch, sash altered, bracketed cornice. Federal; 1800-1825. First black chartered bank housed in this building; also residence of W. W. Browne, founder (in 1881) of the United Order of True Reformers.

133 (south side), Meredith House

Townhouse: frame, two stories, four bays. Eastermost bay--later addition, sash altered 2/2, later porch. Federal; built before 1813; built for William Mann.

East Duval Street

The north side of Duval Street, with the exception of Sixth Mount Zion Baptist Church, was demolished in the 1950s for Interstate 95.

00 Block

25-23 (south side)

Two-Unit Townhouse Row: brick, two stories, No. 23 has three bays, No. 25 has two bays. Flemish-bond walls, north section probably original, south section completed shortly after, 9/9 sash first and second floors, splayed plastered jack arches, two course, molded-brick cornice, late nineteenth-century porch. Federal; c. 1817.

West Duval Street

00 Block

14 (north side), Sixth Mount Zion Church

Brick, one story on full raised basement. Round-headed windows; altered 1917, then enlarged by C. Russell who added corner tower. Romanesque Revival later altered; 1887.

Cameo Street

Cameo Street is composed primarily of smaller-scale ante-bellum laborers' houses.

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Cameo Street (Cont'd.)

700 Block

709-711 (east side)

Two-Unit Townhouse Row: brick, two stories, two bays each unit. Center chimney, box cornice, shallow gable roof; mid-nineteenth century.

715-717 (east side)

Two-Unit Townhouse Row: stuccoed brick, two stories, two bays each unit, center chimney, box cornice, shallow gable roof, brick front stuccoed later. Mid-nineteenth century.

North Henry Street

500 Block

507-509 (east side)

Two-Unit Townhouse Row: pressed brick, two stories, three bays each unit. Twin porches with fluted Corinthian columns, modillion cornices, balustrades; diamond-pane sash, bracketed cornice. Georgian Revival; early twentieth century.

North Monroe Street

500 Block

512 (west side), Lacy Raised Cottage

Dwelling: brick, one story with full raised basement, two bays. Two-story gallery, 6/6 sash, hipped roof, box cornice. Greek Revival; 1852. One of last remaining raised cottage dwellings in the city.

Saint James Street

500 Block

520 (west side)

Townhouse: pressed brick, two stories, three bays. Segmental brick arches above windows, bracketed cornice. Italianate; late nineteenth century. Home of Dr. J. E. Jones, professor at Virginia Union University in late nineteenth century.

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Saint James Street (Cont'd.)

600 Block

605-621 (east side)

Ten-Unit Townhouse Row: pressed brick, two stories, three bays each unit. Modillion cornice, turned-work porches. Georgian Revival; early twentieth century. Important as an early example of block planning, end units of block project to act as terminals; double house forming middle of block also projects.

North 1st Street

500 Block

This is an intact block primarily of brick, two-story late nineteenth-century Italianate townhouses with wooden, Eastlake style porches.

700 Block

The west side of this block consists of a late nineteenth-century residential two-story townhouse row with bracketed cornices and Eastlake style porches.

North 2nd Street

This street traditionally has been the major commercial street in Jackson Ward.

500 Block

513 (east side), Giles Jackson's Law Office

Townhouse: pressed brick, two stories, three-sided tower and entrance bay. Entrance with double ten-panel doors, gabled door hood supported by scrolled brackets with pendants, mouse-tooth brick belt course. Queen Anne; late nineteenth century.

524 (west side), Taylor House

Townhouse: pressed brick, 2 1/2 stories, mansard roof, three-story tower with elongated domed roof, stone string courses. Queen Anne; late nineteenth century. Residence of W. L. Taylor, leader in the True Reformers.

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North 2nd Street (Cont'd.)

600 Block

603 (east side)

Commercial Building: brick, pilastered wood storefront, some original trim. Mid- to late nineteenth century. Brown's Photography Gallery, leading photographer in Jackson Ward in late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

700 Block

700 (west side), (former) Richmond Beneficial Insurance Co.

Commercial Building: pressed brick, three stories, three-bay front. Entrance flanked by Roman Doric pilasters--segmental arch above with urn and garland decorations, brick quoins, stone jack arches with keystones, modillion cornice. Georgian Revival. One of largest commercial buildings in ward.

724 (west side)

Commercial building: pressed brick, two stories. Pilastered wood storefront, raised panels on pilasters, original windows with recessed wood panels below; front doors replaced. Italianate; mid- to late nineteenth century. Operated as Leonard's Drug Store from the 1870s through the early twentieth century.

725 (east side)

Townhouse: stucco, two stories, three bays. An early house largely altered, stucco added, diamond-pane sash, Georgian Revival porch, window arrangement altered, four-pane sash windows in gable. Built 1827-1828. Formerly C. P. Hayes Funeral Home.

North 3rd Street

500 Block

515-517 (east side), Mitchell House

Two-Unit Townhouse Row: pressed brick, two stories, three bays each unit. Bracketed cornice, cast-iron porches, Italianate. One of the residences of John Mitchell, Jr., founder (in 1883) of the Planet, a weekly newspaper.

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North 3rd Street (Cont'd.)

600 Block

The east side of this block is an extant mid- to late nineteenth-century commercial block.

612 (west side), Tucker Cottage

Townhouse: frame, 1 1/2 stories with raised basement. Gambrel roof with shed dormers of unequal width, two-bay narrow-gable, end facing 3rd Street, 4/4 sash window in gable, three-bay side elevation--sill of easternmost first-floor window is original, beaded siding, end chimney removed or cut down, later additions, raised-seam tin roof, basement walls stuccoed, Vernacular, circa 1792. One of two gambrel-roof cottages remaining in Richmond, moved from original site at 3rd and Leigh Streets.

616 (west side), Third Street Bethel A.M.E. Church

Listed in the Virginia Landmarks Register (February 18, 1975) and the National Register of Historic Places (June 5, 1975). See National Register of Historic Places nomination form, January 1975.

617 (east side)

Commercial building: pressed brick, three stories, three bays. First-floor storefront dates from late nineteenth century; 6/6 sash--second and third floors. Greek Revival; 1850-1860; built by Bernard Good.

623 (east side)

Commercial building: pressed brick, two stories. Metal modillion cornice, cream-colored brick, original storefront intact. Georgian Revival; early twentieth century.

700 Block

The east side of the 700 block was destroyed by the 3rd Street access ramp from Interstate 95, and access to the west side by automobile is difficult. Many of the houses are frame and are deteriorating rapidly.

704-706 (west side)

Two-Unit Townhouse Row: brick, two stories, two bays each unit. Sash altered 2/2, bracketed cornice, later porch. Greek Revival--altered; mid-nineteenth century.

722 (west side)

Townhouse: frame, two stories. Although significantly altered by the addition of a modern frame wing that obscures the original front elevation, the steep gable roof indicates a late eighteenth- or early nineteenth-century dwelling.

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North 4th Street

700 Block

708-710 (west side)

Two-Unit Townhouse Row: pressed brick, two stories, three bays each unit.
Entrances with narrow sidelights and transom, later porches, box cornice.
Greek Revival; mid-nineteenth century.

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century churches. There are also a lesser number of structures dating from the early nineteenth century and others from the twentieth. The early vernacular houses on the north edge of the district are of particular interest. Other more substantial early dwellings are scattered along Marshall and Clay Streets and on adjacent cross streets, with several others at the eastern end of Leigh Street. Addolph Dill, a highly successful baker, built a number of houses in the area including his residence at 00 Clay Street (1832). This, like its contemporaries since destroyed, was among the finer homes built in Richmond during the early nineteenth century. Houses such as these stood on large lots and are shown with numerous dependencies on mid-nineteenth-century maps.

The more notable early houses include the plain two-story frame structure at 133 W. Jackson Street built before 1813. It was the residence of a coachmaker, William Meredith, and his family from 1856 until 1897 and later of R. G. Forrester, influential member of the International Order of St. Luke (see below). Among the early examples are the simple brick row at 23-25 East Duval Street and the William Young House (Barham House) at 313 West Marshall Street (both pre-1820). 136-138 West Clay Street was built in 1820 by Isaac Goddin and was the home of James M. Taylor from 1836-1856. Taylor was a well-known auctioneer and property owner as well as being a leader of Methodism in the city.

Black association with the neighborhood dates from the ante-bellum era, when a number of free blacks had their homes in "Little Africa," around the area of West Leigh Street near where Ebenezer Church is situated and in the 200-400 blocks of Duval Street. The frame, gambrel-roof Roper Cottage, at 400 West Duval, was moved to Goochland County in the mid-1950s, when it was threatened by construction of the Richmond-Petersburg Turnpike.

Ante-bellum Richmond was attractive to free Negroes who, as a perusal of the manuscript census and tax records indicates, were very resourceful in making jobs for themselves. The late nineteenth-century black commercial renaissance in Richmond was not unrelated to this and other realities of the 1840s and 1850s. One out of eight free Negroes in late ante-bellum America lived and worked in Virginia, and better than one in eight free residents of Richmond was Negro.

Nor, in the case of Richmond, are the free Negroes the whole story. A number of slaves were owned by their own kinsmen, and many more were working outside the orthodox slave regime. Richmond was the center for the hiring out--often the self-hiring out--of slaves: a modification of the system which often provided personal income and private lodging for the slave and certainly encouraged attention to craftsmanship and frugality.

Whatever their legal status, a substantial majority of blacks of working age in ante-bellum Richmond were acquiring skills and business experience that prepared

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them for the political and economic opportunities newly available following emancipation. It is perhaps not so surprising that many were able to compete successfully with their fellow craftsmen elsewhere in the country during an era when America experienced great commercial and industrial expansion.

The Church and auxiliary beneficial societies of ante-bellum times loomed large in the life of the black community through the first World War and beyond. The latter, descended in spirit from the Burying Ground Society of the Free People of Color of the City of Richmond (circa 1815), formed the nucleus for Negro insurance companies. As social institutions, such groups functioned to assuage the pain and fear of life--destitution, illness, loneliness--and of death. They fostered black solidarity and self sufficiency; and the Church, especially, provided the organization and much of the leadership for post-Emancipation activities of Richmond's blacks.

Two daughter churches of old First African Baptist dominated Negro life in Jackson Ward during the generation following the War. Ebenezer Church was formed in 1856 and occupied a small frame church building from 1858 into the 1870s, when the present structure was completed at the corner of Leigh and Judah Streets. A Negro public school operated from the basement of the earlier structure in the late 1860s. In later years, six additional churches evolved from the membership of Ebenezer.

Sixth Mount Zion Church, formed a decade later largely from members of First African, erected their building at 14 East Duval Street in 1888. Their pastor, the Reverend John Jasper, developed a national reputation for his rhetorical skills and strict fundamentalism. He was a natural leader with an indomitable spirit as witness his extensive ministry before and during the War. Jasper preached to vast rural congregations as well as those in Richmond and Petersburg, and to congregations of blacks and whites, including Confederate soldiers--notwithstanding the laws to the contrary or his status as a slave hired out for factory work.

Much to the chagrin of his neighbor, Richard Wells, the pastor of Ebenezer, Jasper developed, as a vehicle for his teaching, a sermon purporting to prove, among other things, that the earth was flat, square, and stationary. "The Sun do move and the Earth am still" outraged Mr. Wells and others of refined and literary sensibilities, the more so for endearing Jasper to thousands both literate and unlettered.

Other notable churches in Jackson Ward include the Hood Temple (formerly Clay Street Methodist Church) Adams and Clay, designed by Albert West, noted Richmond architect of the mid-nineteenth century. The diminutive Romanesque style structure at the corner of Leigh and St. James (St. Philips P. E. Church from 1870-1959) now houses All Saints Pentecostal Church. The much-altered Mosby Memorial Church, located at 9 East Clay Street, was built as a Friends Meeting House in 1866. The

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church house at Fifth and Jackson Streets was built in 1926 on the original site of old Fifth Street Baptist, founded in 1888. Third Street Bethel A.M.E. Church is listed separately on both the Virginia Landmarks Register and National Register of Historic Places.

During the period which saw the formation of these churches, the small neighboring community of ante-bellum free black property owners, entrepreneurs, journeymen, and laborers was transformed: "Little Africa" became one of the most significant and influential black communities in America. The role of the church and the pre-emancipation beneficial societies in this process may be seen personified in the careers of the Reverend W. F. Graham, pastor of the Fifth Street Baptist Church, and the Reverend W. W. Browne, noted temperance reformer; as well as in the spirit of the Independent Order of St. Luke.

Mr. Graham was the founder and president of the American Beneficial Company, later merged into the Richmond Beneficial located at 700 North Second Street. W. W. Browne was founding president of the most famous of the Negro beneficial and self-help societies, the Grand Fountain of the United Order of True Reformers. The True Reformers were chartered in 1883 to establish a mutual benefit fund. By 1889 they had opened a bank at 105 West Jackson Street (Browne's residence), the first black-organized bank to be chartered in the United States.

Giles B. Jackson (with homes--both destroyed--at 205 East Leigh and at 818 North Fourth Streets and his attorney's office at 513 North Second Street) drafted the charter for the True Reformers Bank and assisted Browne, et al; as the Reformers established first a mercantile and industrial association, then a weekly newspaper, The Reformer; a hotel; a home for the elderly; a building and loan association; and a real estate agency. The True Reformer Bank survived the panic of 1893 to become the largest black-controlled financial institution in the country by 1907.

In 1893 B. L. AND W. H. Jordan left the True Reformers Bank to organize the Southern Aid Society, which grew steadily, coming into its own with the World-War-I-induced increase of employment and payroll among Virginia blacks. The Southern Aid Society moved from 527 North Second Street to its present building at the corner of Third and Clay Streets in 1931. The Jordans and other former officers of the True Reformers continued the work of the Order after the latter was disbanded in 1910.

True Reformers had overextended themselves and the resources of their bank in supporting myriad social and commercial activities that provided benefits for a generation of blacks all over the eastern seaboard. The bank and the Order itself collapsed in 1910. The Grand Fountain's headquarters building at 604-608 North Second Street has since been destroyed.

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A second major beneficial society of the period was the Independent Order of St. Luke. The St. Luke emulated the True Reformers in founding a bank, weekly magazine, and varied commercial and retail enterprises. The Order had floundered until 1899, when it became the vehicle for one of the most successful careers in modern Richmond history. Maggie Walker (nee Mitchell) was the first woman bank president in the United States. Unlike that of the True Reformers, her St. Luke's Penny Savings Bank continues to the present day in the form of its successor, the Consolidated Bank and Trust Company.

Mrs. Walker's successes--as an educator, philanthropist, and businesswoman--are well known and are fittingly commemorated in the high school which bears her name, the Consolidated Bank, and her home at 110 East Leigh Street. The latter, a National Historic Landmark, is a focal point for current preservation efforts in Jackson Ward.

The subsidiaries of the St. Luke's and True Reformers Orders may stand for many similar business organizations established in the Ward during the half-century following Appomattox. Their beneficial and charitable functions have been superceded by those of national fraternal orders and public authorities, but their contribution to the community and to the careers of many individuals ensure their place in history.

John Mitchell, Jr. and his "worthy rival and yet good friend," Giles B. Jackson, epitomize the nexus of business, fraternal, and political activity existing in Jackson Ward circa 1890-1920. Jackson cultivated the more conservative style; cooperating with the reemergent Conservatives in Virginia politics and devoting proportionately more of his time to Negro industrial growth. He was coauthor of The Industrial History of the Negro Race in America; moving force behind the Negro Exhibit at the Jamestown Tercentennial Exhibition of 1907; and ubiquitous advocate for black business interests at the seats of government in Washington and Richmond.

Jackson figured prominently in True Reformer enterprises (see above) and his personal business activities were extensive. When Jim Crow made its appearance in Virginia, Booker T. Washington turned to Giles Jackson, as to a kindred spirit, for advice on mounting a legal challenge to the new ordinances. Washington might have been less comfortable coordinating efforts with Jackson's neighbor, the flamboyant and fiery John Mitchell, Jr. However radical he sometimes appeared, Mitchell had the intelligence and business acumen to gain prominence in national banking circles. He was at one time an officer and the sole Negro member of the American Bankers Association.

As Grand Chancellor of the Colored Knights of Pythias and editor of the Richmond Planet, Mitchell became a power to be reckoned with in the city for two score

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years. The Knights, formed in 1880, rapidly gained preeminence among the secret societies in Richmond. These were not unlike contemporary white groups except insofar as their ritual included African elements and their purposes were shaped by the needs and condition of the Freedmen.

From their "Castle" at the corner of Third and Jackson Streets, the Pythians exercised an influence felt throughout the Ward. Whether appearing elaborately costumed and on horseback for parades or somewhat more mutedly providing music for a funeral, the Knights were an important element of any social event. They provided a color and pageantry still vividly remembered by older residents. It was under the auspices of the Pythians that John Mitchell opened his Mechanics Savings Bank. A contemporary of Maggie Walker's bank, the Mechanics was located at 511 North Third Street, next to Mitchell's Italianate style attached residence at 515-517 North Third.

Mitchell was a leader of the predominantly black Republican organization which, if weak elsewhere, totally dominated the politics of Jackson Ward from 1871 into the twentieth century. Mitchell or his allies, including the Irishman James Bahene, continually represented Jackson Ward on the Common Council of the City of Richmond during the latter part of the nineteenth century.

Among blacks serving on the Common Council in addition to Mitchell were: John H. Adams, Jr., who lived at 300 West Leigh Street, near to his father, a well-to-do contractor since ante-bellum times; Nelson P. Vandervall; and Richard G. Forrester, whose residence at 133 West Jackson was built before 1813 and remains one of the oldest in the Ward. E. R. Carter, resident at 700 North Fifth Street; Henry J. Moore of 312 West Leigh; and Alpheus Roper, 400 West Duval Street, also served on the Council. Josiah Crump served both on the Common Council and as an Alderman; his residence at 736 North Third Street is no longer standing. Councilman S. W. Robinson lived at 18 West Leigh Street, several blocks from 623 North Third Street, which later housed the law office of his distinguished grandson, S. W. Robinson, Jr., now a federal judge.

The younger Robinson served as attorney for plaintiffs in the Prince Edward County desegregation suit decided in conjunction with *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka* in 1954. He was also prominent in subsequent suits brought against the Richmond public schools. A half-century earlier, James H. Hayes, an attorney with offices at 414 North Third Street, organized the Negro Educational and Industrial Association to foster a test case against the then newly enacted discriminatory legislation. Jackson Ward continued to provide political leadership even during the time when there appeared to be no black politics.

John W. Mitchell, Jr. thrived on adversity. With the appearance of Virginia's Jim Crow laws (commencing circa 1899-1904) involving seating on common carriers,

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and in response to the disfranchisement following upon the State Constitutional provisions of 1902, he began to espouse a forceful "race rights" policy in the pages of his newspaper. It was apparently the appeal of this program which made the Planet a newspaper of national circulation. The paper merged in 1938 with the Baltimore Afro-American and is still published in Jackson Ward.

Although operating within the context of an uncertain political situation, Jackson Ward retained considerable economic and social strength during the early twentieth century. If Negroes suffered from the fallout of Social Darwinism in the political sphere, they were of the age in their pursuit of wealth and happiness through self-help, work, education, and thrift. Whether in spite, or to a degree because, of the separatist philosophy of the day, black entrepreneurs and professional people remained active.

The first generation of the new century was politically bleak. From the time of the elimination of Jackson Ward as a political entity and the failure of the Street Car Boycott (1905-1906) through the adoption of Virginia's strong anti-lynching law in 1928, politics had little "good news" for Jackson Ward or blacks in general. By 1931, the Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals began to reverse unfair and irregular application of the existing laws by election officials and registrars. In 1935, blacks began to reappear as veniremen for Richmond courts.

Throughout the intervening period, Negro barbers, continuing a tradition dating back to ante-bellum times, competed successfully for white patronage, as did black haberdashers, livery stable owners, caterers and restaurateurs. Within the Richmond black community--increasingly synonymous with the area north of Broad from Bowe to Tenth Streets--undertaking establishments, beauty parlors, hotels, building and loan and real estate companies were also highly successful. There were in addition a large number of groceries, repair shops, drugstores, and other small commercial enterprises in and near Second Street.

Educational facilities for blacks included Armstrong High School, for many years the only Negro high school in the city. Armstrong was a successor to the Negro Normal School and took over that institution's Second-Empire style building, constructed at First and Leigh Streets in 1871. Virginia Union University (chartered 1900) was developed on a campus just to the northwest of Jackson Ward. It incorporates several formerly independent schools; one, Hartshorn Memorial College (for Women), was located just to the west of the Jackson Ward Historic District from 1884 to 1932.

Many Virginia Union faculty members lived in Jackson Ward, notably Dr. Joseph E. Jones, at 520 North St. James Street, and Dr. J. J. Smallwood, whose residence was at 102 East Leigh Street. Dr. James H. Johnston, long-time educator and an early president of Virginia State College in Petersburg, lived in the Ward at

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104 East Leigh Street and later at 710 North Fifth Street. Among their contemporaries, all of the practising black lawyers and the vast majority of medical personnel and other professionals lived and, for the most part, practised in the Ward.

By the middle-third of the twentieth century, the German Catholics of old St. Mary's Parish and the substantial Jewish community of Jackson Ward had joined the exodus begun by earlier generations of whites. In the 1930s, Jackson Ward--as extended substantially to the north, west, and east of the present district--was home to 8,000 black families, and to these alone. It was the center of Negro religious life and education; it was, indeed, the social, economic, and political hub of central Virginia's black population.

Every city has a 'street' that serves as the social, as well as commercial, center of Negro life. Along one or more blocks of second Street in Richmond. . . , the 'crowd' may be found almost every evening. For a block or two everything is Negro; here is a little oasis-- 'our street.'

from The Negro in Virginia, 1940.

Jackson Ward has suffered considerably during the past generation. The northern part of the neighborhood was cut off, with much physical destruction, by the Turnpike developed in the 1950s. The eastern portion has been leveled in favor of the Coliseum and expanded facilities for medical education at the Health Sciences center of Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU-MCV). Buffeted by every affliction visited on inner city neighborhood elsewhere, it has also paid the price of its own success. Segregation in a sense made Jackson Ward, and the leadership nurtured in the Ward helped to unmake segregation.

Virginians have been passing one another for decades: rural people moving in to take the places of young, active city dwellers now removed to the suburbs. The automobile and affluence, compounded in the case of Jackson Ward by changed law and changing custom, have crippled many a historic neighborhood. And yet, Jackson Ward remains the place of residence, of worship, and of business for a substantial portion of Richmond's black community. John Mitchell's successors continue to edit the Richmond Afro-American here. The Vice Mayor and other prominent blacks continue to practise law from offices on or adjacent to Second Street.

Jackson Ward's pleasant residential streets are beginning to attract the attention of persons who recognize the structural and aesthetic value of the period houses to be found there. Efforts to preserve the identity and character of the area are underway.

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GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Verbal Boundary Description

The 110 acres comprising Jackson Ward Historic District are bounded by a line beginning at a point in center of intersection of Duval and Smith Street, thence extending approximately 1300 feet SW along center of Smith Street to center of intersection of said street with alley between Broad and Marshall Streets;

Thence extending approximately 1000 feet SE along center of abovementioned alley to center of intersection of said alley with Madison Street;

Thence extending approximately 200 feet NE along center of Madison Street to center of intersection of said street with Marshall Street;

Thence extending approximately 600 feet SE along center of Marshall Street to corner of intersection of said street with Adams Street;

Thence extending approximately 200 feet NE along Adams Street to center of intersection of said road with alley between Marshall and Clay Streets;

Thence extending approximately 1650 feet SE along center of abovementioned alley to center of intersection of said alley with Fourth Street;

Thence extending approximately 1000 feet NE along center of Fourth Street to center of intersection of said street with the alley between Leigh and Jackson Streets;

Thence extending approximately 200 feet SE along the center of abovementioned alley to center of intersection of said alley with the alley between Fourth and Fifth Streets;

Thence extending 200 feet NE along center of abovementioned alley to the center of intersection of said alley with Jackson Street;

Thence extending approximately 600 feet NW along center of Jackson Street to center of intersection of said street with Third Street;

Thence extending approximately 600 feet NE along center of Third Street to beyond center of intersection of said alley with Duval Street to north side of said street;

Thence extending approximately 1200 feet NW along north side of Duval Street to intersection of said street with Cameo Street;

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GEOGRAPHICAL DATA (Cont'd.)

Verbal Boundary Description

Thence extending approximately 100 feet NE, then approximately 100 feet NW to concrete wall; then approximately 100 feet SW to north side of Duval Street-- thus encompassing Sixth Mount Zion Church;

Thence extending approximately 1700 feet WNW along north side of Duval Street to point of origin.

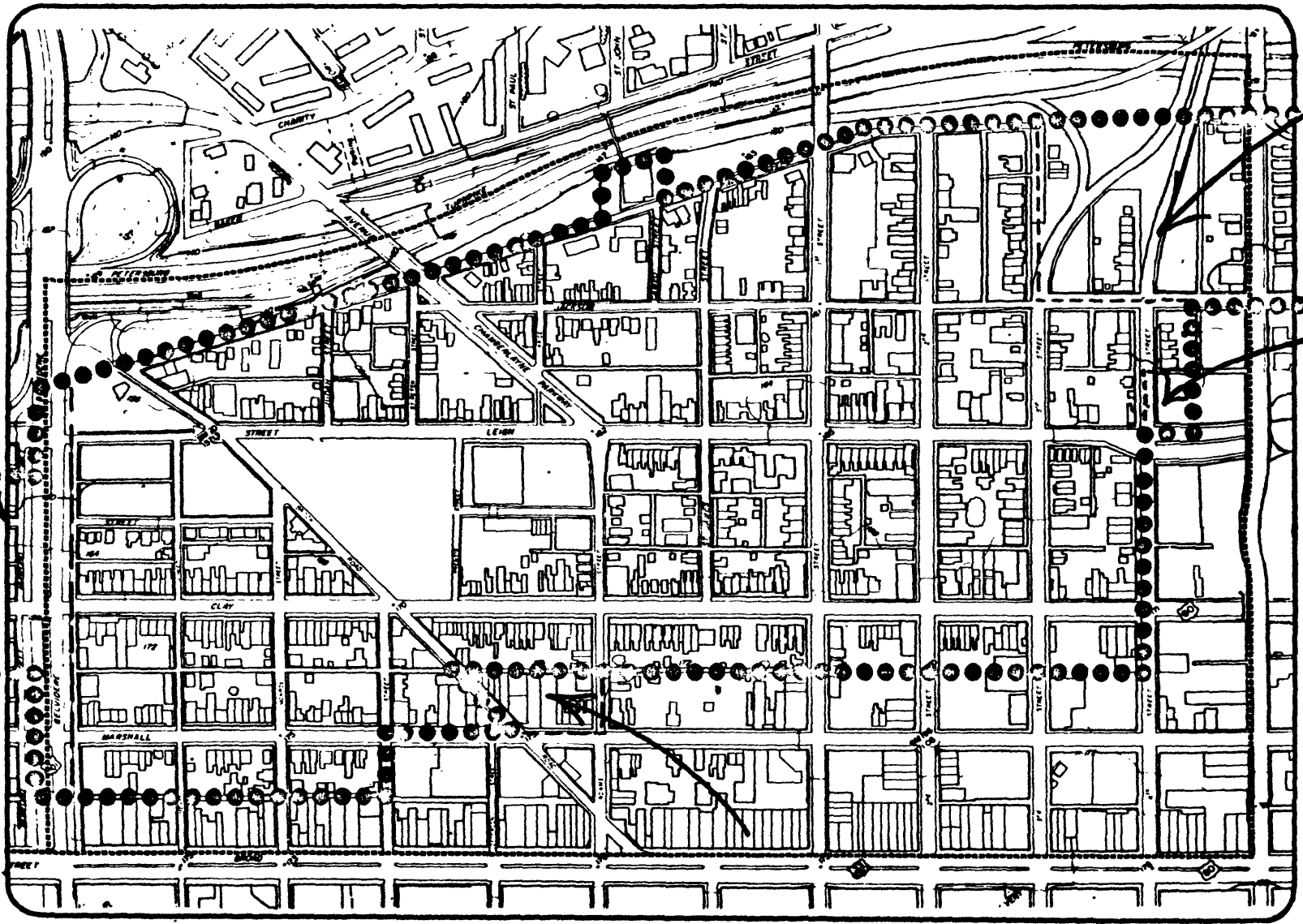
There are several specific departures from the boundaries contained in the nomination form supporting the State's nomination to the National Register dated July 30, 1976. In general these variances are based upon the criteria requiring a high degree of integrity for properties to meet a standard of national significance.

Two areas of the registered district have been deleted from the landmark proposal:

1. Northeast Corner: Deleted is the area from Duval Street south to East Jackson Street and from North Third Street east to the alley between North Fifth and North Sixth Streets. This area is effectively severed by modern exit and entry ramps of the Petersburg-Richmond Turnpike. Associated with this intrusive construction has been the continued demolition of residences to the point where intervening spaces have effectively destroyed the minimum contiguity needed to define a cohesive district. Much of the demolition occurred subsequent to the filing of the original nomination in 1976.

2. Western Extension: Deleted is the area from Belvidere Street west to Gilmer Street and from the alley between Catherine and Leigh Streets south to the alley between Clay and Marshall Streets. This area is significantly removed from the district by the intervening Belvidere Street which is a major traffic corridor four lanes wide with additional parallel service roads (Gilmer and Smith Streets).

There is one area which is included which is not part of the original district as nominated to the National Register: the area included is that between Brook Road east to North Adams Street and from West Marshall Street north to the alley between West Clay and West Marshall Streets. The structures in this area are consistent with the date and style of those in the companion block immediately west which contains the corner fire house. Inclusion of this block will provide immediate context and background to the fire house block.



----- Landmark Boundary

..... Register Boundary

Jackson Ward Historic District Richmond Virginia